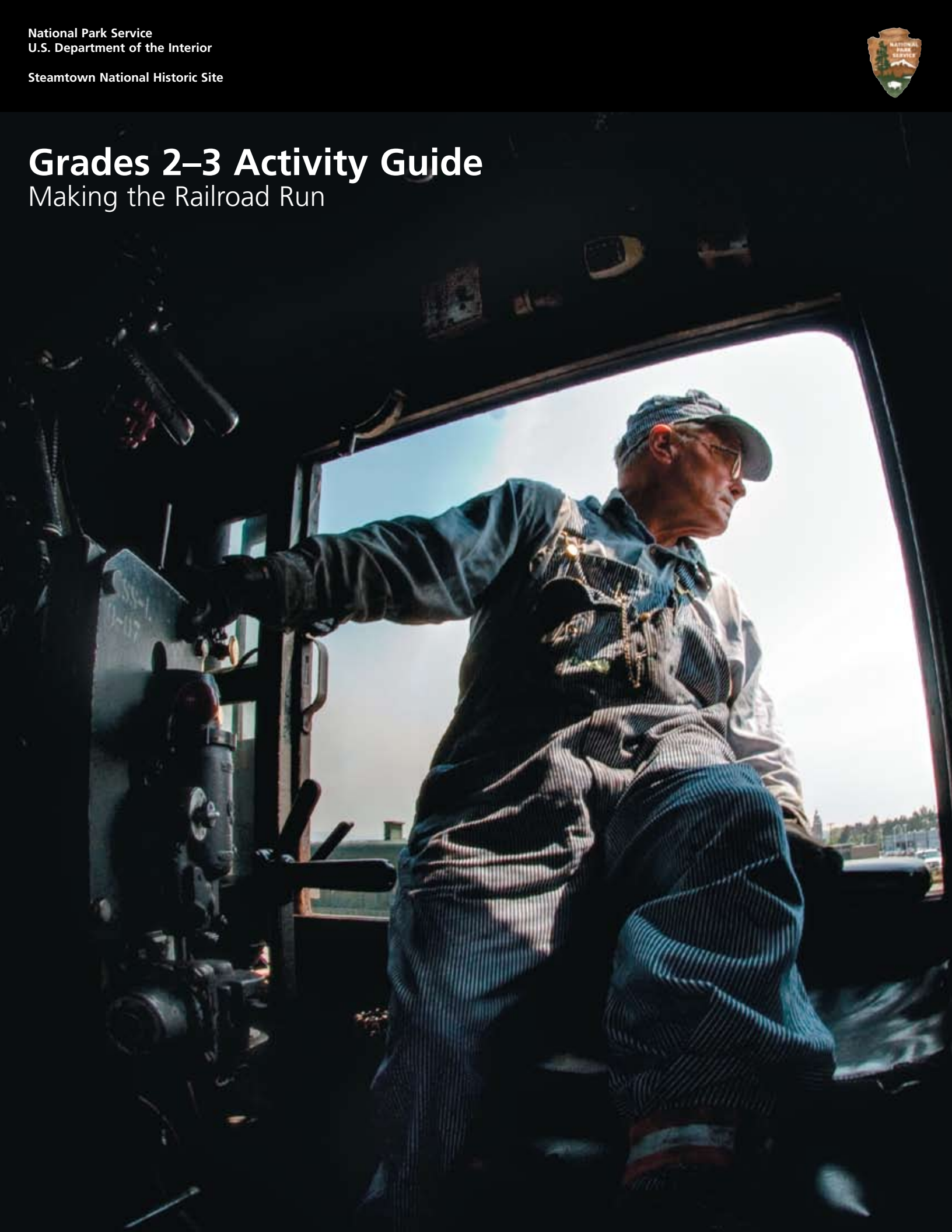




Grades 2–3 Activity Guide

Making the Railroad Run





Canadian Pacific #2317 arrives at Steamtown NHS with the “Scranton Limited” train ride.

About Steamtown National Historic Site

Steamtown National Historic Site was created in 1986 to further public understanding and appreciation of the role of steam railroading in the growth of America. Although the National Park Service has other units, such as Allegheny Portage and Golden Spike National Historic Sites, that tell stories about railroading history, Steamtown NHS is unique and nationally significant because it:

1. Preserves and protects both representative physical resources (structures, artifacts, locomotives, and rolling stock) and the living culture associated with the steam railroading era;
2. Offers visitors an opportunity to have a live steam experience in an operating railroad yard.

Steamtown NHS "K-W-L" Worksheet

Name: _____

Know – Write what you already know about Steamtown National Historic Site

Want – Write what you want to know about Steamtown National Historic Site

Learned – Write what you learned while at Steamtown National Historic Site

Pre–Visit Activity 2

Railroad Vocabulary



1. **Anthracyte Coal:** A type of coal (“hard” coal), providing much heat and little smoke when burned; difficult to mine
2. **Bituminous Coal:** A type of coal (“soft” coal), providing heat with more smoke when burned; easier to mine
3. **Conductor:** The person in charge of the train and its movements
4. **DL&W RR:** The Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad, a company established in Scranton, PA originally to haul iron; it also hauled coal and other products, and had passenger service
5. **Diesel Locomotive:** A railroad engine which uses fuel oil to generate electricity for power to move a train
6. **Engineer:** The person who operates, or drives, a locomotive
7. **Fireman :** The person who worked to shovel coal into the firebox and to get water into the boiler of a steam locomotive
8. **Freight:** The goods carried by trains (food, lumber, computers, grain, autos, trucks, etc.)
9. **Handcar:** A manually powered vehicle used by track workers to inspect the track
10. **News Butcher:** A peddler, usually a child, who earned money by selling newspapers, snacks, sandwiches, cigars, etc. to train passengers during the steam-locomotive era
11. **Passenger:** A person who pays a fare to ride on a train
12. **Porter:** A person, originally a newly freed slave, who worked in Pullman cars handling baggage, making up sleeping quarters, and taking care of his passengers
13. **Roundhouse:** A circular or semicircular building where steam locomotives could be inspected, repaired or stored until their next assignment
14. **Steam Locomotive:** A railroad engine that uses fuel to heat water and produce the steam power needed to move a train
15. **Turntable:** A moving platform with a railroad track, used to move steam locomotives in and out of a roundhouse

Pre-Visit Activity 3

"Whistle Signals"



Use the chart below to memorize the wistle signals used on the railroad

Whistle Meanings

** Means a short whistle*

— Means a long whistle

Signal		Meaning
*	←————→	Stop
— —	←————→	Proceed
***	←————→	Backup
— —* —	←————→	Grade Crossing
————	←————→	Approaching Station
*****	←————→	Get Off The Tracks

Post-Site Activity 1

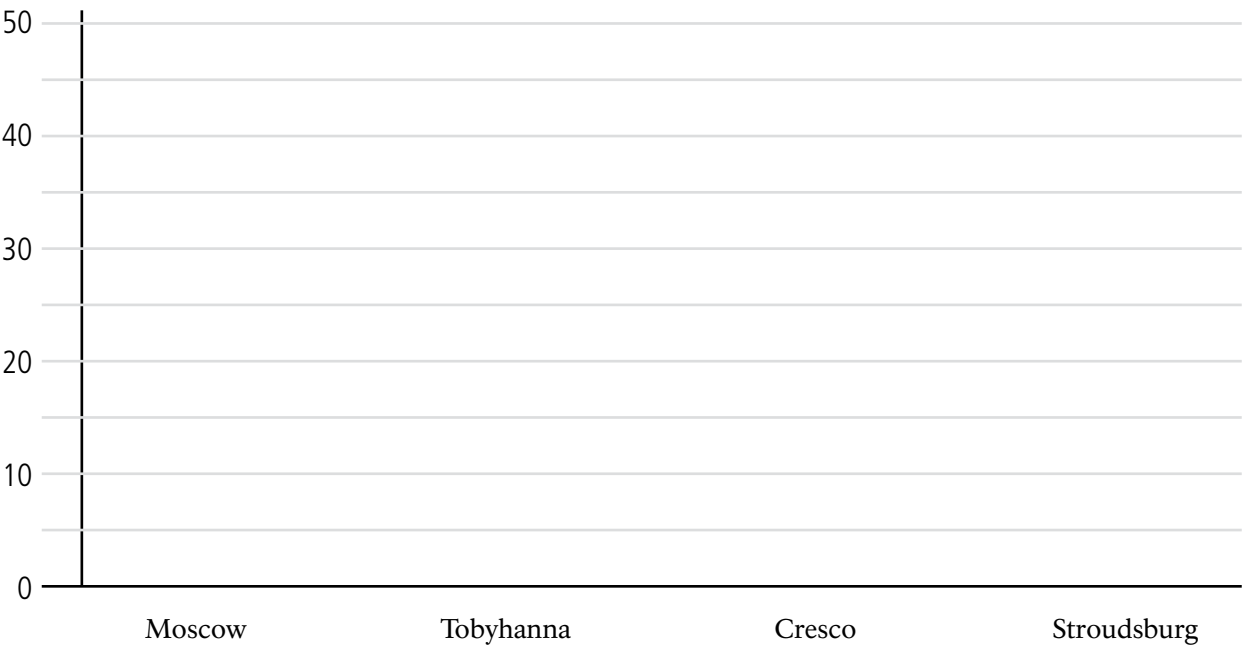
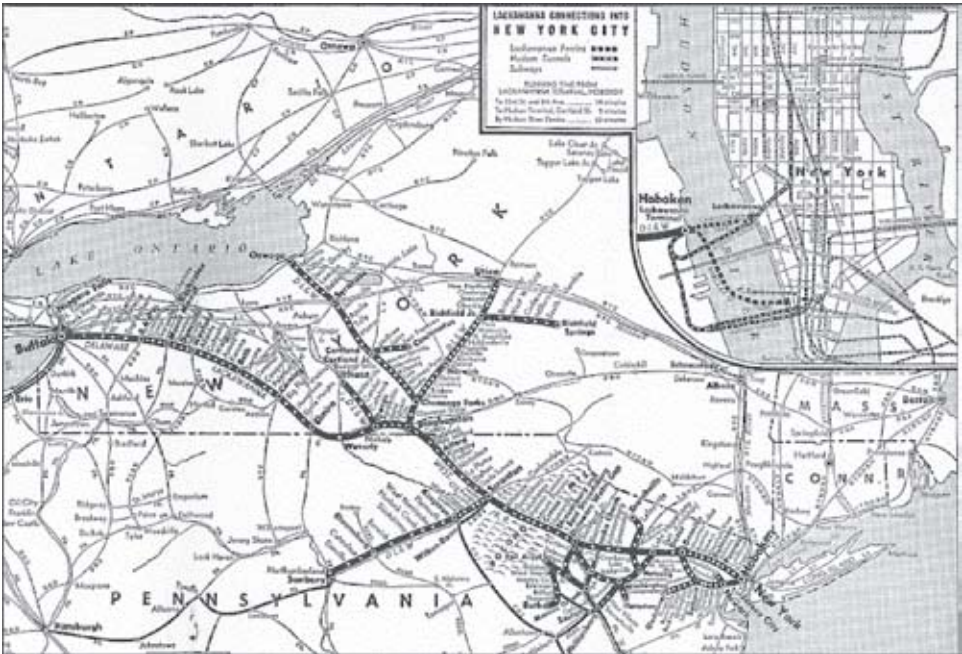
"Where Are We Going?"

Name: _____

Draw a bar graph using the distance chart and graph below

Distance Chart

Town	Miles
Moscow	13
Tobyhanna	26
Cresco	36
Stroudsburg	48

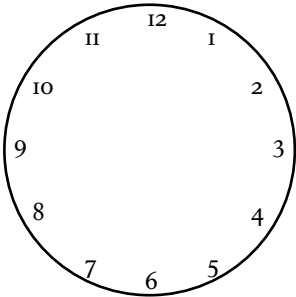
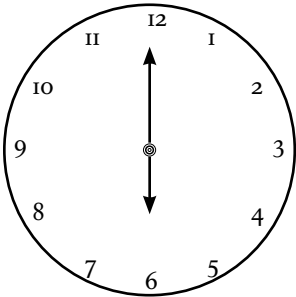


What time will the passenger train arrive at the station? Fill in the empty clocks with the correct arrival time.

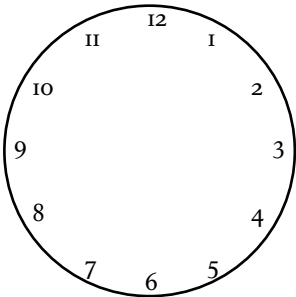
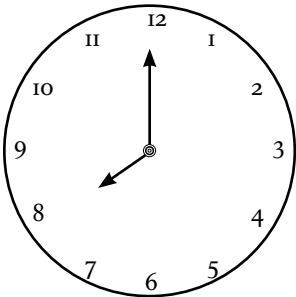
The “Empire Builder” leaves Minneapolis at 6:00 am. It takes 8 hours to go to Chicago. What time does the Empire Builder arrive in Chicago?

Time Left

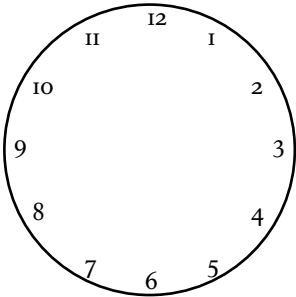
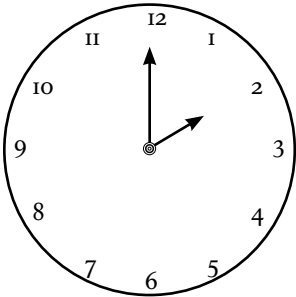
Time Arrive



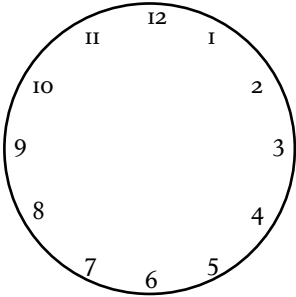
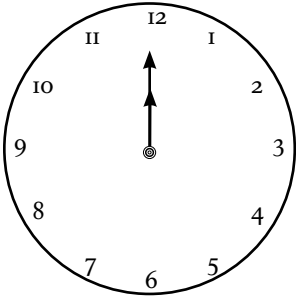
The “Shasta Daylight” leaves Sacramento at 8:00 pm. It takes 3 hours to go to San Francisco. When does the Shasta Daylight arrive in San Francisco?



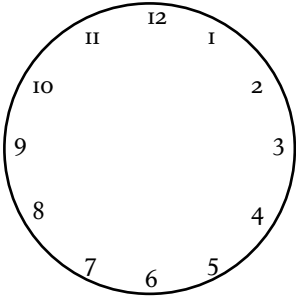
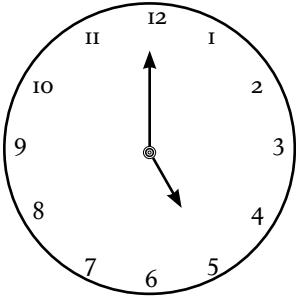
The “Phoebe Snow” leaves Binghamton at 2:00 pm. It takes 4 hours to go to Newark. What time does the Phoebe Snow arrive in Newark?



The “North Coast Limited” leaves Fargo at 12:00 pm. It takes 3 hours and 30 minutes to go to Bismarck. When does the North Coast Limited arrive in Bismarck?



The “Merchants Limited” leaves Boston at 5:00 pm. It takes 4 hours to go to New York. When does the Merchants Limited arrive in New York?



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Steamtown National Historic Site



Steamtown National Historic Site
150 South Washington Avenue
Scranton, PA 18503-2018

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA